

Message Text

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ORIGIN EB-11

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EB - MR. HAND

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRN, CA

SUBJ: CIVAIR - PRESS RELEASE ON SIGNING OF AGREEMENTS

1. IN ORDER AVOID PREMATURE PUBLIC RELEASE, EMBASSY REQUESTED TELEPHONE STYLES (OR, IN HIS ABSENCE, COBB) ABOUT 4:30 P.M. MAY 8 TO CONFIRM THAT SIGNING WILL DEFINITELY TAKE PLACE AT ABOUT 5 P.M. DEPARTMENT PRESS RELEASE WILL THEN BE MADE AVAILABLE AT 5:P.M.

2. FOLLOWING IS SLIGHTLY REVISED PRESS RELEASE WHICH WILL BE ISSUED:

UNITED STATES AND CANADA SIGN CIVIL AIR TRANSPORT AGREEMENTS

THE UNITED STATES AND CANADA TODAY SIGNED IN OTTAWA THREE AGREEMENTS WHICH SIGNIFICANTLY EXPAND AND CEMENT THEIR AIR TRANSPORT RELATIONS IN THE AREAS OF AIRLINE ROUTES, CHARTER FLIGHTS, AND PRECLEARANCE OF PASSENGERS
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TRAVELING BY AIR BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES.

AMBASSADOR WILLIAM J. PORTER SIGNED THE THREE AGREEMENTS FOR THE UNITED STATES; SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS MITCHELL SHARP SIGNED THE AIRLINE ROUTE AGREEMENT; AND MINISTER OF TRANSPORT JEAN MARCHAND SIGNED THE CHARTER FLIGHT AND PRECLEARANCE AGREEMENTS FOR CANADA.

THE AGREEMENT ON AIRLINE ROUTES TAKES THE FORM OF THE ADDITION OF NEW ROUTES AND THE EXPANSION OF SOME EXISTING ROUTES IN THE US-CANADA AIR TRANSPORT AGREEMENT OF 1966. SERVICES OVER SOME OF THE ROUTES ARE DEFERRED FOR VARYING PERIODS UP TO FIVE YEARS IN ORDER TO ASSURE THAT THE EXPANSION IN TRANSBORDER AIR SERVICES IS ORDERLY. UNDER THE EXPANDED AGREEMENT, THERE WILL BE THE OPPORTUNITY FOR US AND CANADIAN AIRLINES TO OFFER DIRECT AIR SERVICES BETWEEN A TOTAL OF 38 CITIES IN THE CONTINENTAL UNITED STATES, ALASKA, AND HAWAII AND 17 CITIES IN CANADA. OF THESE CITIES, 29 IN THE UNITED STATES AND 11 IN CANADA WILL RECEIVE EITHER FIRST OR EXPANDED DIRECT AIRLINE SERVICES BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES WHEN NEW ROUTES ARE OPERATED.

THE AGREEMENT ON AIR TRANSPORT PRECLEARANCE PROVIDES FOR IMPROVED FACILITIES AND SUPPORT FOR US CUSTOMS AND IMMIGRATION OFFICES PRESENTLY CLEARING US-BOUND PASSENGERS AT FOUR CANADIAN DEPARTURE POINTS (MONTREAL, TORONTO, WINNIPEG, AND VANCOUVER). THE AGREEMENT ALSO PROVIDES FOR INTRODUCING PRECLEARANCE AT SEVEN OTHER CANADIAN AIRPORTS (HALIFAX, QUEBEC, LONDON, OTTAWA, CALGARY, EDMONTON, AND VICTORIA) AND THIRTEEN US AIRPORTS (BOSTON, CHICAGO, CLEVELAND, DALLAS/FORT WORTH, DENVER, HONOLULU, HOUSTON, LOS ANGELES, MIAMI, NEW YORK, NEWARK, SAN FRANCISCO, AND TAMPA) AT SUCH TIME AS TRAFFIC JUSTIFIES IT AND ADEQUATE FACILITIES ARE AVAILABLE.

THE NONSCHEDULED AIR SERVICE AGREEMENT WILL, FOR THE FIRST TIME, PERMIT AIRLINES OF BOTH COUNTRIES TO OPERATE CHARTER FLIGHTS UNDER A BILATERALLY-AGREED REGIME, RATHER THAN UNDER THE UNILATERALLY CONTROLLED CONDITIONS WHICH HAVE SO FAR PREVAILED. GENERALLY, LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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AIRLINES OF EITHER COUNTRY WILL BE REQUIRED TO OPERATE THREE CHARTERS ORIGINATING IN THEIR OWN COUNTRY FOR EVERY FOUR WHICH ORIGINATE IN THE OTHER COUNTRY (A SO-CALLED UPLIFT RATIO)- HOWEVER, BECAUSE CERTAIN US-CANADA CHARTER MARKETS CONSIST ALMOST ENTIRELY OF CANADIANS TRAVELING TO THE UNITED STATES, EXCEPTIONS TO THE UPLIFT RATIO ARE PROVIDED IN CERTAIN INSTANCES, PARTICULARLY FROM CHARTER FLIGHTS BY US AIRLINES

BETWEEN CANADA AND HAWAII, CALIFORNIA, NEVADA, ARIZONA,
FLORIDA, PUERTO RICO, AND THE US VIRGIN ISLAND.
INSTEAD, THE VOLUME OF SUCH CHARTER TRAFFIC BY US
AIRLINES WILL NOT EXCEED CERTAIN AGREED PERCENTAGES OF
THE TOTAL VOLUME OF CHARTER TRAFFIC MOVING IN THE
MARKETS INDICATED. THESE PERCENTAGES WILL EVENTUALLY
REACH 25 PERCENT OF THE HAWAII AND FLORIDA MARKETS AND

40 PERCENT OF ALL THE INDICATED MARKETS COMBINED. IN
VIEW OF CERTAIN PROBLEMS OVER ACCEPTING CURRENT CANADIAN
RULES ON INCLUSIVE TOUR CHARTERS, THE FULL IMPLEMENTATION
OF RIGHTS IN CERTAIN AREAS IS HELD IN ABEYANCE UNDER
RESERVATIONS ATTACHED BY BOTH GOVERNMENTS TO THE
AGREEMENT.

THE TEXTS OF THE THREE AGREEMENTS, AND RELATED NOTE
EXCHANGES, ARE ATTACHED. RUSH

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